

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) Patterson, et al. Examiner: Louis K. Huynh
Serial No.: 10/675,284 Group Art Unit: 3721
Confirmation No: 5475 Docket: 717-961 CIP
Filed: September 30, 2003 Dated: June 22, 2005
For: APPLIANCE FOR
VACUUM SEALING FOOD
CONTAINERS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 6/22/05, Signature *Julie L. Watts*

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R.
§1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Supplemental Information Disclosure
Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

UNITED STATES PATENT PUBLICATIONS

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>PUBLICATION NO.</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
Germano	US 2005/0011166 A1	January 20, 2005
Kingeter, et al.	US 2004/0031245 A1	February 19, 2004
Singer	US 2003/0000180 A1	January 2, 2003
Krasenics, et al.	US 2003/0140603 A1	July 31, 2003
Albritton, et. al.	US 2005/0022474 A1	February 3, 2005
Small, et al.	US 2005/0022473 A1	February 3, 2005
Higer et al.	US 2005/0028494 A1	February 10, 2005

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Albritton, et al.	US 2005/0039420 A1	February 24, 2005
Baptista	US 2005/0050855 A1	March 10, 2005
Baptista	US 2005/0050856 A1	March 10, 2005

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>PUBLICATION NO.</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
Japan	JP-A-S62-287823	December 14, 1987
Japan	JP-U-S63-79307	May 25, 1988
Japan	JP-A-2002-308215*	October 23, 2002
Japan	JP-U-S61-129705	August 14, 1986
Japan	JP-U-H02-69806	May 28, 1990
Japan	JP-A-H04-87928*	March 19, 1992
Japan	JP-A-H05-178324*	July 20, 1993
Japan	JP-A-H07-61419*	March 7, 1995
EPO	EP1149768	October 31, 2001
PCT	WO 02/10017 A1	February 7, 2002
UK	GB 2 211 161	June 28, 1989
PCT	WO 2004/065222 A1	August 5, 2004
EPO	EP 1 433 719 A1	June 30, 2004
EPO	EP 1 403 185 A1	March 31, 2004
PCT	WO 03/074363 A1	September 12, 2003
PCT	WO 03/064261 A1	August 7, 2003
EPO	EP 1 149 768 A1	October 31, 2001
PCT	WO 00/26088	May 11, 2000
Germany	DE 3632723 A1*	March 31, 1988

NON-PATENT PUBLICATIONS

1. Magic Vac[®] Champion Commercial Quality Vacuum Sealer Model #1750 ©2000, Instruction Manual, Deni, pgs. 1-15.

The above-referenced documents are listed on Form PTO 1449. We have enclosed the cited documents to facilitate reference to them.

Concise Explanation of the Relevant Foreign Language References

For each of the foreign language references indicated with an asterisk, Applicants have provided herewith an English language abstract. For three of the Japanese references Applicants further include unofficial, computer-generated translations of the entire patent which was obtained on the Japanese Patent Office website. For the remaining Japanese references, Applicants provide the following statements.

JP-A-S62-287823 discloses a vacuum packaging machine having a main body 2 and a cover pivotally secured thereto. A portion of a bag may be place into the base and the cover moved to a closed position. The pressure within the receiving space of the bag can be controlled by a pressure control knob 26. The pressure can be adjusted according to the contents of the bag.

JP-U-S63-79307 discloses a sealing wrapper for vacuum sealing a bag. The device includes a nozzle that communicates with a valve 6. The valve regulates the vacuum force by a control 60 in order to prevent fluid from flowing into the nozzle.

JP-U-S61-129705 discloses a general-purpose automatic packaging device which senses pressure and applies a heat-sealing process. The device has a chamber for receiving a bag, which is evacuated and sealed.

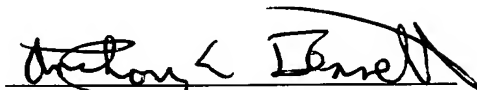
JP-U-H02-69806 discloses a vacuum packaging device having a chamber 2 for receiving a bag 5 to be evacuated and heat sealed. A pressure sensor 6 is in communication with the chamber. The device includes a control portion 16 that allows a user to select a degree of vacuum. When the preset vacuum level is reached, the open portion of the bag is automatically heat-sealed by a heat sealing unit 4. After the heat-sealing unit cools down, air is introduced into the chamber by a valve 8 and the vacuum sealing process is complete.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. The appropriate fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is filed herewith. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

Consideration of the cited references is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he is respectfully invited to

contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

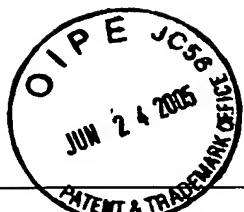
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony E. Bennett", written over a horizontal line.

Anthony E. Bennett
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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 717-961 CIP	SERIAL NO. 10/675,284
	APPLICANT Patterson, et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. 5475
	FILING DATE September 30, 2003	GROUP 3721

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US 2005/0011166 A1	1/20/05	Germano			
		US 2004/0031245 A1	2/19/04	Kingeter, et al.			
		US 2003/0000180 A1	1/2/03	Singer			
		US 2003/0140603 A1	7/31/03	Krasenics, et al.			
		US 2005/0022474 A1	2/3/05	Albritton, et al.			
		US 2005/0022473 A1	2/3/05	Small, et al.			
		US 2005/0028494 A1	2/10/05	Higer, et al.			
		US 2005/0039420 A1	2/24/05	Albritton, et al.			
		US 2005/0050855 A1	3/10/05	Baptista			
		US 2005/0050856 A1	3/10/05	Baptista			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		JP-A-S62 287823	12/14/87	Japan				
		JP-U-S63-79307	5/25/88	Japan				
		JP-A-2002-308215	10/23/02	Japan				
		JP-U-S61-129705	8/14/86	Japan				
		JP-U-H02-69806	5/28/90	Japan				

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.

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		JP-A-H04-87928	3/19/92	Japan				
		JP-A-H05-178324	7/20/93	Japan				
		JP-A-H07-61419	3/7/95	Japan				
		EP1149768	10/31/01	EPO				
		WO 02/10017 A1	2/7/02	PCT				
		GB 2 211 161	6/28/89	UK				
		WO 2004/065222 A1	8/5/04	PCT				
		EP 1 433 719 A1	6/30/04	EPO				
		EP 1 403 185 A1	3/31/04	EPO				
		WO 03/074363 A1	9/12/03	PCT				
		WO 03/064261 A1	8/7/03	PCT				
		EP 1 149 768 A1	10/31/01	EPO				
		WO 00/26088	5/11/00	PCT				
		DE 3632723 A1	3/31/88	GERMANY				
		WO 2004/048203 A1	6/10/04	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		1.	Magic Vac® Champion Commercial Quality Vacuum Sealer Model #1750 ©2000, Instruction Manual, Deni, pgs. 1-15.
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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